



Protecting Land Forever

EXAMPLES OF ELIGIBLE EXPENSES FOR GRANT PROJECTS

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If a project cost you are considering is not listed in one of the project categories below, or you are unsure if it is covered by the descriptions below, please contact the Maryland Environmental Trust for clarification.

Project Categories

1. Strategic Land Conservation

- Working collaboratively to protect signature landscapes.
- Developing a regional conservation strategy identifying and mapping lands that should be prioritized for conservation.
- Projects that support regional conservation partnerships.
- Staff or contractual time dedicated to easement work, included but not limited to the following: land parcel targeting, identification of easement donor prospects, outreach initiatives, solicitation, processing and negotiation of easements, deed drafting, baseline documentation, appraisals or surveys.
- *Note: No funds shall be used for expenses incurred in the acquisition of purchased easements.*

2. Enhanced Land & Easement Stewardship

- Innovative tools and technology to address the “stewardship gap.”
- Development, enhance or sustain the management easement records.
- Development of mapping and GIS capabilities and services.
- Technology costs for GIS software and equipment or other software for baseline documentation and monitoring.
- Staff or contractual time dedicated to monitoring or follow up site visits, production of current condition reports and volunteer monitoring training.

3. Land Trust Strengthening

- Funding for professional development and training for staff and/or board to strengthen programs and services provided by the land trust. (*Note: Eligible costs are limited to registration fees, meals and travel within Maryland. Costs of overnight accommodations and travel beyond Maryland are not eligible.*)
- Expert guidance on organizational assessment, marketing, communication, fundraising, community planning and citizen engagement or succession planning.
- Completion of a multi-year strategic organizational plan or major fundraising plan
- Temporary capacity building such as hiring contractors or interns to support the land trust’s work.

- Bookkeeping and accounting services (including audits and the costs of filing annual reports required by Maryland and federal tax authorities).
- Other organizational operation and development expenses, including land trust insurance.